

Message Text

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SP-02 SS-15 DPW-01 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /092 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1886

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MIL VS

SUBJ: VIETNAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT

JANUARY 8-14, 1975

PART I - SUMMARY

A. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS UP MORE THAN 50 PERCENT THIS WEEK, MAINLY AS A RESULT OF THE RESUMPTION OF THE HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE DELTA. CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES WERE ALSO HIGHER, BUT THE INCREASE WAS NOT COMPARABLY GREAT. GVN FORCES -- IN GENERAL -- CONTINUE TO ACQUIT THEMSELVES WELL. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY TRUE DURING THE PERIOD IN MR-2'S BINH DINH PROVINCE AND MR-3'S BINH TUY PROVINCE.

B. BAD WEATHER CONTINUED TO RESTRICT THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN MR-1, WITH THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY OCCURRING IN QUANG NGAI. NVA/VC FORCES CONTINUED THEIR UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO DISLODGE THE ARVN FROM MO TAU AND NUI BONG MOUNTAINS NORTH OF THE HIA VAN PASS. SOUTH OF THE PASS THERE WERE A NUMBER OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN QUANG NGAI, AND TWO ARVN RANGER BATTALIONS CONTINUED UNDER HEAVY ATTACK WEST AND SOUTH-WEST OF NGHIA HANH IN THE PROVINCE.

C. ARVN FORCES IN MR-2 CONTINUED TO HOLD THEIR COMMANDING POSITIONS IN THE AN LAO VALLEY IN BINH DINH PROVINCE, INFLECTING HEAVY LOSSES ON THE NVA/VC FORCES ATTEMPTING TO DISLODGE THEM. IN KONTUM THE RANGER SPOILING OPERATION NORTHWEST OF THE CITY CONTINUED TO MEET WITH SUCCESS. ELSEWHERE IN KONTUM, ON JANUARY 8 AND JANUARY 13, VNAF SORTIES WERE PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL IN DESTROYING NVA/VC TRUCK CONVOYS AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT. THE BIG SETBACK IN MR-2 OCCURRED JANUARY 10, WHEN COMMUNIST SAPPERS DESTROYED ALL FIVE STORAGE TANKS AT THE GVN FUEL DEPOT AT PLEIKU CITY.

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D. ALTHOUGH THINGS WERE GENERALLY QUIET IN MR-3, GVN FORCES SCORED SIGNIFICANT SUCCESSES IN SEVERAL ENGAGEMENTS IN AND AROUND HOAI DUC DISTRICT TOWN IN BINH TUY. IN THE FIGHTING GVN FORCES REGAINED CONTROL OF THE TOWN AND ITS AIRSTRIP, AND LEVIED STIFF LOSSES ON THE COMMUNISTS IN THE PROCESS. SAPPERS CONTINUED ACTIVE IN THE REGION, AND BIEN HOA AIRBASE AGAIN CAME UNDER COMMUNIST ROCKET FIRE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. Q.L. 20

IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE WAS ALSO A CONTINUING COMMUNIST HARASSMENT TARGET.

E. A RESURGENCE IN THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN MR-4 HAS OCCURRED, AS HAD BEEN PREDICTED. FIGHTING IS ABOVE THE USUAL HIGHPOINT LEVELS FOR THE PAST YEAR, BUT MARKEDLY BELOW THE DECEMBER PEAK. THE INCREASE WAS GREATEST IN THE SOUTH, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SPOTS OF CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY IN THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL DELTA. IN THE NORTH DINH TUONG AND KIEN TUONG PROVINCES HAVE BEGUN TO PICK UP, AND THERE WAS HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE LATTER -- INCLUDING THE LOSS OF TWO A-37S -- AT THE END OF THE PERIOD. IN VINH LONG IN THE CENTRAL DELTA THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS DOWN, BUT THE ATTENDANT GVN LOSSES MADE THEM COSTLY AFFAIRS. THERE WERE ALSO SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE. IN THE SOUTH BA XUYEN HAD THE HIGHEST ACTIVITY LEVEL IN MANY MONTHS, WITH MULTIPLE INCIDENTS AGAINST VC COMPANY-SIZED UNITS. FIGHTING WAS ALSO UP IN BAC LIEU AND AN XUYEN. IN THE LATTER, 15 OPERATING BASES WERE LOST OR ABANDONED DURING THE WEEK, BUT, ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, CIVILIAN TRAFFIC WAS ABLE TO MOVE WITHOUT INTERRUPTION FROM DAM DOI TO CA MAU FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SOME PERIOD AFTER GVN OPERATING BASES ALONG THE BAY HAP CANAL WERE REESTABLISHED.

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EPART II - ICCS

VIETNAMESE ANTI-COMMUNIST PROTEST GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE
CONTRY CONTINUED TO SUBMIT PETITIONS TO ICCS REGIONAL
HEADQUARTERS AND TEAM-SITES IN ALL REGIONS. THE ZEAL
DEMONSTRATED BY THE PROTESTERS IN A FEW CASES RESULTED
IN A FORMAL ICCS COMPLAINT TO THE RVN DELEGATION TO THE
TPJMC ON JANUARY 14. NEITHER THE ICCS ACTING AS A
COMMISSION NOR ANY OF THE INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DELEGA-
TIONS HAVE YET TAKEN ACTION OF THE URGENT RVN COMPLAINTS
ABOUT THE CAPTURE OF PHUOC LONG BY THE COMMUNISTS.

PART III - FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED
INTO ITS THIRTIETH WEEK.

PART IV - COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

A. VIET CONG: US GUILTY OF "GRAVE ACTS OF WAR".

THE "PRG" FOREIGN MINISTRY, IN A JANUARY 10 STATEMENT, CLAIMED THAT THE US HAD SENT "AN IMPORTANT NAVAL FORCE", INCLUDING THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER "ENTERPRISE", TO SOUTH VIETNAMESE COASTAL WATERS AND HAD FLOWN "MANY" MANNED AND UNMANNED RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS "TO GUIDE PUPPET AIRCRAFT" IN "EXTERMINATION BOMBING OPERATIONS AGAINST LOC NINH." THE LATTER ALLEGATION WAS ALSO INCLUDED IN AN "URGENT MESSAGE" FROM DRV FOREIGN MINISTER TRINH TO HIS THAI COUNTERPART WHICH ASSERTED THAT THE RECONNAISSANCE PLANES WERE BASED IN THAILAND. THE "PRG" STATEMENT WAS, NOT SURPRISINGLY, "FULLY SUPPORTED" BY A DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY RELEASE THE SAME DAY.

B. HANOI BLASTS MALIK STATEMENT.

HANOI RADIO ON JANUARY 12 TOOK INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK TO TASK BECAUSE, IN HIS JANUARY 10 STATEMENT EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE INTENSIFIED FIGHTING IN SOUTH VIET NAM, MALIK "DELIBERATELY REFUSED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE DRV AND THE PRG SIDE, WHICH HAS ALWAYS RESPECTED THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIET NAM, AND THE US AND THIEU ADMINISTRATION SIDE, WHICH HAS SYSTEMATICALLY VIOLATED IT." THE BROADCAST CHARGED THAT MALIK'S APPEAL "ONLY SERVES TO ENCOURAGE THE WAR MANIACS IN WASHINGTON AND SAIGON AND THAT IT HAS "PAVED THE WAY FOR US MILITARY ADVENTURE" IN VIET NAM. MALIK'S "PARTIAL AND SUBJECTIVE" STATEMENT, THE BROADCAST CONCLUDED, IS INCONSISTENT WITH INDONESIA'S ROLE IN THE ICCS.

PART V - MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 89 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, A DECREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 130. RAIN CONTINUES TO RESTRICT GROUND FIGHTING AND AIR ACTIVITY. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, FIGHTING WAS MODERATE AND CONFINED TO SOUTHERN THUA THIEN (P). SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS THE SITUATION WAS QUIET EXCEPT IN QUANG NGAI (P) WHICH SAW CONTINUED CLASHES AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS. GVN CASUALTIES WERE: 68 KIA, 282 WIA, 60 MIA. VC/NVA LOSSES WERE: 205 KIA, 37 CAPTURED, 2 RETURNEES. NO COMBAT AIR SORTIES WERE FLOWN.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IN QUANG TRI (P). IN THUA THIEN (P) FIGHTING CONTINUES IN THE VICINITY OF MO TAU AND NUI BONG WHERE ARVN INFANTRY AND RANGER UNITS ARE STILL COMING UNDER DAILY ABFS AND GROUND ATTACKS. FROM JAN 9-13, A TOTAL OF 14 RDS OF ARTILLERY IMPACTED WITHIN THE PHU BAI VITAL SECTOR WITH NO RESULTS.

THIS INDICATES THAT VC/NVA ARTILLERY IS STILL IN A POSITION TO INTERDICT HWY 1, TO CONDUCT HARASSING FIRE INTO PHU BAI VITAL SECTOR INCLUDING THE AIRFIELD, AND THAT GVN FORCES ARE NOT IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE AREA. THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING IN THE MO TAU AREA WAS ON JAN 8 WHEN A RANGER CO. ACCOUNTED FOR 25 VC/NVA KIA. ON JAN 11, VC/NVA DESTROYED A GUARDED CULVERT IN THUA THIEN (P) CAUSING AN INTERRUPTION IN TRAFFIC ON HWY 1. ON JAN 11, VC/NVA PLACED 2 TIME-DELAY MINES ON A RAILROAD TRACK IN THUA THIEN (P), WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THIS RAIL LINE FROM DANANG TO HUE IS NOT PRESENTLY IN USE. ON JAN 11, VC/NVA ENTERED A VILLAGE IN THUA THIEN (P), ASSASSINATED AN ARVN VETERAN AND STOLE HIS MOTOR BOAT.

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3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING IN QUANG NAM (P). ON JAN 7, A VC MINE WU ACTIVATED IN QUANG NAM (P) RESULTING IN 1 CIVILIAN KILLED AND 1 CIVILIAN WOUNDED. ON JAN 13* IN DANANG CITY, THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION ON A CIVILIAN BUS ENROUTE FROM HGI ANHTOSDANANG, CAUSING 4 CIVILIANS TO BE INJURED AND THE BUS TO BE 50 PERCENT DAMAGED. QUANG TIN (P) REVWINED QUIET. ON JAN UN A VC MINE WAY DJAKHIVWTD IV QUUNG TIN (P) RESULTING IN 1 CIVILIAN WOUNDED. ON JAN 8, A VC MINE EXPLODED IN QUANG TIN (P) RESULTING IN 1 CIVILIAN WOUNDS. ON JAN 8, VC/NA THREW A GRENADE CFWO THE HOME OF A HWMLT OFFICIAL IN QUANG TIN (P), KILLING 2 CIVILIANS AND WOUNDING 2 OTHERS. AGAIN, THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING IN MR-1 DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WAS IN QUANG NGAI (P). THE 78TH AND 79TH RANGER BNS AGAIN CAME UNDERALMOST DAILY ATTACKIN TPZ ARSAS WEST AND SOUTHWEST OF NGHIA HANH IN QUANG NGAI (P). ON JAN 8, THREE COMPANIES OF THE 136TH RF BN WERE ATTACKED BY VC FORCES SE OF SON THANH AND SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES WHICH INCLUDED 35 KIA, 24 WIA, AND 95 MIA. URVN, RF AND PF KFTS IN THE VICINITY OF QUE SON, QUANG NGAI (P) HAVE HAD DAILY CONTACT OR BEEN SUBJECTED TO ABF THROUGHOUT THIS REPORTING PERIOD WITH RELATIVELY LIGHT CASUALTIES. ON JAN 8, PC/NVA DRESSAD IN ARVN UNIFORMS ENTERED A HAMLET IN QUANG NGAI (P) AND LPREW EXPLOSIVES INTO THE HOUSE OF THE HAMLET CHIEF, KILLING THE HAMLET CHIEF AND 1 PF MEMBER, CAUSING 50 PERCENT DAMAGE TO THE HOUSE, AND ABDUCTING 1 OTHER CIVILIAN. ON JAN 8, VC/NVA FIRED 5 RDS 82MM MORTAR AT AN RF AND PF BASE AREA. THE ROUNDS LANDED OUTSIDE THE CAMP, COMPLETELY DESTROYING 1 CIVILIAN HOUSE. ON JAN 8, VC BLEW UP THE SONG CHUA BRIDGE ON HWY 1, NW OF BINH SON IN QUANG NGAI (P).

THIS GUARDED BRIDGE WAS 30 PERCENT DAMAGED AND TRAFFIC WAS INTERRUPTED FOR 7 HOURS UNTIL A DETOUR WAS ESTABLISHED. ON JAN 8, VC/NVA ENTERED A VILLAGE IN QUANG NGAI (P) WHERE THEY SHOT AND KILLED 1 PF MEMBER WOUNDED 1 CIVILIAN, AND ABDUCTED 1 SOLDIER AND 1 CIVILIAN. ON JAN 8, A VC MINE WAS ACTIVATED IN QUANG NGAI (P) KILLING 1 CHILD. ON JAN 9, VC/NVA FIRED 3 RDS 82MM MORTAR INTO A POPULATED LREA IN QUANG NGAI (P), WOUNDING 1 CIVILIAN. ON JAN 12, AN EXPLOSION OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN OCCURRED AMONG A CROWD LISTENING TO A PRESENTATION BY A CHINESE HERB DOCTOR IN QUANG NGAI (P), INJURING 1. POLICEMAN AND 6 CIVILIANS. ON JAN 13, APPROXIMATELY 1 SQUAD OF CONFIDENTIAL

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VC/NVA ENTERED A POPULATED AREA IN QUANG NGAI (P) AND ABDUCTED 1 CIVILIAN.

4. ICCS:

IN ICCS REGION I THERE WERE NO OBSERVATIONS DURING THE WEEK, BUT 3 LETTERS PROTESTING THE COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN PHUOC LONG WERE ACCEPTED BY DELEGATIONS. IN QUANG TRI THE IRANIANS ACCEPTED A LETTER; IN HUE THE IRANIANS ACCEPTED A LETTER FROM PHU THU DISTRICT AND THE INDONESIANS WITH THE IRANIANS PRESENT ACCEPTED A LETTER FROM HUONG TRA DISTRICT. IN ICCS REGION II THE IRANIAN AND IN- DONESIAN TEAMS AT CHU LAI OBSERVED THE SITE OF THE MINING OF THE SONG CHUA BRIDGE IN QUANG NGAI (P). FIVE LETTERS PROTESTING THE COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN PHUOC LONG WERE ACCEPTED BY DELEGATIONS. ALL FOUR DELEGATIONS AT HOI AN AND TAM KY TEAM SITES ACCEPTED LETTERS. AT CHU LAI THE INDONESIA S AND THE POLES ACCEPTED A LETTER OF PRO- TEST FROM QUANG NGAI. IN DANANG ALL FOUR DELEGATIONS ACCEPTEE LETTER PRESENTED BY A DELEGATION HEADED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER GROUPS. ALL FOUR DELEGATIONS ALSO ACCEPTED A LETTER OF PROTEST FROM A DELEGATION OF WORKERS OF THE AGENCY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DANANG AREA.

PART VI - MR-2

1. SUMMARY: MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED SUBSTANTIALY THIS WEEK IN BINH DINH, AGAIN THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE IN THE REGION, COMMUNIST FORCES TOOK HEAVY LOSSES IN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO DISLODGE ARVN 22ND DIV TROOPS FROM POSITIONS AT THE MOUTH OF THE AN LAO VALLEY. IN KONTUM, RANGER SPOILING OPERATIONS TO THE NORTHWEST OF THE CITY ENCOUNTERED ONLY MODERATE RESISTANCE, WHILE VNAF AIRSTRIKES NW AND SW OF THE CITY INFLICTED CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE ON COMMUNIST MILITARY COMVOYS. THE GVN SUFFERED A SERIOUS SETBACK IN PLEIKU WHEN A COMMUNIST SAPPER SQUAD DESTROYED THE MAIN POL DUMP NEAR PLEIKU CITY. IN BINH THUAN, SECTOR OFFICIALS EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF GVN UNITS PARTICIPATING IN OPERATIONS AGAINST VC MR-6 REAR SERVICE AND SUPPORT AREAS IN HAM THUAN AND THIEN GIAO DISTRICTS. FINALLY, THE ICCS WAS ROUSED OUT OF ITS SLUMBER AS GVN-SPONSORED

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST COMMUNIST AGGRESSION IN PHUOC LONG
BLANKETED MR-2; ICCS DELEGATES ALSO CONDUCTED 2 OBSERVATIONS
THIS WEEK.
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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

I. COMMUNIST-INITIATED INCIDENTS:

	TOTAL INCIDENTS	HIGHLAND	COASTAL ZONE
LAST WEEK:	63	15 PERCENT	85 PERCENT
THIS WEEK:	77	26 PERCENT	74 PERCENT

BINH DINH WAS THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WITH 39 INCIDENTS.

II. COMMUNIST PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	PERSONNEL			WEAPONS		
	KIA	CIA	RETURNEE	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	348	2	2	23	82	105
THIS WEEK:	580	7	1	41	115	156

III. GVN PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	37	106	7	0	10	10
THIS WEEK:	58	170	19	0	13	13

IV. GVN ARTILLERY AMMO UTILIZATION (ROUNDS):

LAST WEEK: 18,880
THIS WEEK: 22,552

V. GVN AIR OPERATIONS (SORTIES):

	TAC AIR	VR	HELICOPTER
LAST WEEK:	149	183	1,112
THIS WEEK:	299	163	1,243

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CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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2. BINH DINH: THE INTENSITY OF MILITARY ACTION ROSE THIS WEEK. FIGHTING WAS PARTICULARLY HEAVY AT THE MOUTH OF THE AN LAO VALLEY, WHERE THE NVA UNSUCCESSFULLY ATTEMPTED TO DISLODGE THE ARVN FROM HILLS 82 (BR 814965) AND 174 (BR 810967), AND FROM NUI CHEO (BR 839931). THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL ATTACK TOOK PLACE ON JAN 7, WHEN NVA ELEMENTS LAUNCHED AN ARTILLERY BARRAGE AND A GROUND ASSAULT AT THE 3RD CO/ 2ND BN OF THE 42ND ARVN REGT AT HILL 174, SUFFERING

105 KIA AND 25 WEAPONS CIA; ARVN LOSSES WERE 10 KIA AND 16 WIA. ON JAN 8, IN SIMILAR ATTACKS ON ELEMENTS OF THE 42ND AND 40TH ARVN REGTS AT THE MOUTH OF THE AN LAO, NVA FORCES SUFFERED ANOTHER 80 KIA, WHILE REPORTEDLY ARVN HAD ONLY 9 KIA. INASMUCH AS SIZABLE LOSSES WERE REPORTEDLY ALSO INFLICTED ON NVA ELEMENTS NEAR THE AN LAO ON JAN 9 AND 13, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE NVA 141ST REGT, THE MAIN NVA UNIT IN THE AREA, HAS TAKEN A SERIOUS BEATING. IN A SIGNIFICANT GVN INITIATIVE ELSEWHERE IN BINH DINH, GVN ELEMENTS OCCUPIED BR 646484 AT BINH KHE ON JAN 8, RESULTING IN 21 VC KIA, ASSORTED WEAPONS, AMMUNITION, AND DOCUMENTS SEIZED. HOWEVER, ON JAN 13, 10 KM EAST OF AN KHE, THE COMMUNISTS SHELLED A CONVOY OF THE 2ND TRANSPORTATION CORPS TRAVELLING FROM QUI NHON TO PLEIKU DESTROYING TWELVE TONS OF ASPHALT, ONE TRUCK AND TWO TRAILERS AND INFLICTING 1 KIA AND 3 WIA; AN RF COMPANY SUBSEQUENTLY DISPATCHED TO THE AREA KILLED 13 COMMUNISTS. COMMUNIST ATTACKS BY FIRE AND OTHER HARASSMENT CONTINUED IN TAM QUAN, HOAI NHON, PHU MY, AND PHU CAT DISTRICTS. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES INDICATE THAT ELEMENTS OF THE 2ND AND 141ST NVA REGTS MAY BE DEPLOYED IN THE HIGH GROUND EAST OF AN TUC ON QL-19 (BR 4743), IN ORDER TO INTERDICT THE HIGHWAY. CAPTURED DOCUMENTS ALSO INDICATE THE PRESENCE IN BINH DINH OF A PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED NVA ARTILLERY REGT, THE 68TH.

3. KONTUM: THE ONLY SIZABLE CONTACT THIS WEEK OCCURRED ON JAN 10, 9 KM NORTHEAST OF KONTUM CITY, WHERE THE COMMUNISTS MOUNTED AN ARTILLERY BARRAGE AND A GROUND ATTACK AGAINST 2 COMPANIES OF THE 35TH RANGER BN. THE ATTACKERS SUSTAINED 18 KIA WHILE THE RANGERS HAD 6 WIA. THE 23RD RANGER GROUP'S SPOILING OPERATION NORTHWEST OF KONTUM, BEGUN ON JAN 4, HAS PROCEEDED AGAINST MODERATE RESISTANCE TO A POSITION ON QL-14 10 KM NORTHWEST OF THE CITY; THE OBJECTIVE OF THE EXERCISE IS CONFIDENTIAL

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VO DINH, APPROXIMATELY 7 KM FARTHER NORTH. ALSO THIS WEEK, VNAF CARRIED OUT SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL AIR STRIKES. ON JAN 8, THREE AIR SORTIES WERE CALLED IN ON A 15 TRUCK MILITARY CONVOY OBSERVED 55 KM SOUTHWEST OF KONTUM; REPORTEDLY 6 VEHICLES AND 5 ANTI-AIRCRAFT EMPLACEMENTS WERE DESTROYED, AND SEVERAL SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS WERE TRIGGERED. AND ON JAN 13, AFTER A COMMUNIST CONVOY WAS SPOTTED 68 KM NORTHWEST OF KONTUM, AIR SORTIES WERE CALLED IN; MR-2 NHA TRANG HQS ESTIMATES THAT 203 MOLOTOVA TRUCKS AND 8 37-MM AA GUNS WERE DESTROYED, AND THAT 170 COMMUNIST TROOPS WERE KILLED.

4. PLEIKU: THERE WAS A FLURRY OF COMMUNIST-INITIATED INCIDENTS AROUND QL-19 EAST OF LE TRUNG, BUT TRAFFIC WAS NOT STOPPED FOR ANY EXTENDED TIME. HOWEVER, OUTPOSTS OF THE 223 RF BN AT BR 070559 AND 051563 WERE LOST ON JAN 6; THE 45TH ARVN REGT WAS MOVED INTO THE AREA, AND RETOOK THE TERRAIN ON JAN 11. COMMUNIST PROBES IN THE THANH AN-PLEI ME AREA ALSO CONTINUED.

THE GVN SUFFERED A SETBACK ON JAN 10 WHEN A COMMUNIST SAPPER SQUAD DESTROYED ALL 5 STORAGE TANKS AT THE GVN FUEL STORAGE DEPOT AT ZA 226523 ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF PLEIKU CITY. ACCORDING TO REVISED FIGURES, 1,888,950 LITERS OF GAS, 2,754,120 LITERS OF DIESEL, AND 812,485 LITERS OF JP-4 WERE LOST. THESE FUEL LOSSES SERIOUSLY DEplete RESERVES IN PLEIKU, ALTHOUGH FUEL ALREADY ALLOTTED WILL ADEQUATELY SUSTAIN CURRENT OPERATIONS. GENERAL PHU, MR-2 COMMANDER, HAS ORDERED THE IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF FUEL RESERVES FROM QUI NHON TO COVER FUTURE NEEDS; HE INTENDS TO SECURE QL-19 BETWEEN QUI NHON AND PLEIKU AT ALL COSTS.

5. BINH THUAN: SECTOR FORCES CONDUCTED OPERATIONS AGAINST VC MR-6 REAR SERVICE AND SUPPORT AREAS IN NORTHERN HAM THUAN AND THIEN GIAO DISTRICTS THIS WEEK. REPORTEDLY 35 VC WERE KILLED, ONE WAS CAPTURED, AND ONE RALLIED; 8 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF SUPPLIES WERE SEIZED. GVN LOSSES WERE 18 KIA, 15 WIA, AND 2 M-16'S LOST. SECTOR OFFICIALS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF PARTICIPATING GVN UNITS --APPARENTLY SOME FAILED TO COVER ASSIGNED OBJECTIVES AND IN SOME CASES AVOIDED SUSPECTED COMMUNIST POSITIONS. ELSEWHERE IN THE PROVINCE, COMMUNIST HARASSMENT ACTIVITY PERSISTED. NUMEROUS OBSTRUCTIONS WERE PLACED ON LOC'S, BUT TRAFFIC WAS NOT INTERRUPTED FOR LONG.
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6. OTHER: GVN PRE-EMPTIVE OPERATIONS IN NORTHEASTERN PHU YEN CONTINUED, INFLECTING LIGHT CASUALTIES ON THE COMMUNISTS. BODIES OF 20 COMMUNIST SOLDIERS, EVIDENTLY KILLED IN EARLIER OPERATIONS, WERE RECOVERED. APPROXIMATELY 2,000 REFUGEES FROM PHUOC LONG ENTERED QUANG DUC THIS WEEK. IN A SIGNIFICANT REDEPLOYMENT, THE 1ST AND 2ND BNS OF THE 53RD ARVN REGT MOVED FROM QUANG DUC TO BAN ME THUOT IN DARLAC. IN LAM DONG, THE VC HARASSED QUANG LAM TEMPORARY RESETTLEMENT CAMP. REPORTEDLY 27 VC WERE KILLED BY RF SECURITY PATROLS IN LAM DONG.

7. ICCS: TWO ICCS OBSERVATIONS WERE REPORTED THIS WEEK. IN PLEIKU, ON JAN 11, THE IRANIANS AND INDONESIAIS MADE AN OBSERVATION OF THE SAPPER ATTACK ON THE POL DUMP. IN NINH THUAN, THE INDONESIAIS MADE AN OBSERVATION OF AN ATTACK ON THUONG DIEM HAMLET. ALSO, A DELEGATION OF 2 INDONESIAIS AND 1 IRANIAN ARRIVED FROM ICCS REGION IV HQS IN PHAN THIET FOR A BRIEFING ON COMMUNIST PEACE VIOLATIONS IN BINH TUY; THE DELEGATION ALSO MET WITH AND RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM VICTIMS OF THE FIGHTING IN HOAI DUC AND TANH LINH. IN BINH DINH, KONTUM, PLEIKU, PHU BON, KHANH HOA, TUYEN DUC, LAM DONG, NINH THUAN, AND BINH THUAN PROVINCES, MASS DEMONSTRATIONS--SOME NUMBERING IN THE THOUSANDS--AGAINST COMMUNIST AGGRESSION IN PHUOC LONG WERE ORGANIZED BY LOCAL PROVINCE OFFICIALS. MOST DEMONSTRATIONS CONCLUDED WITH THE

PRESENTATION OF A PROTEST PETITION TO LOCAL ICCS DELEGATES.
SURPRISINGLY, THERE WAS SOME VARIATION IN THE WILLINGNESS OF
ICCS DELEGATES TO RECEIVE PROTESTERS AND THEIR PETITIONS; IN ONE
CASE, ONLY THE INDONESIANS RECEIVED THE PROTESTS, IN OTHERS
BOTH THE IRANIANS AND INDONESIANS DID SO, AND IN STILL OTHERS
ALL FOUR DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATED.

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SP-02 SS-15 DPW-01 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /092 W

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R 151002Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1890

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AHEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING

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PART VII - MR-3

1. THE WEEK WAS DOMINATED BY GVN SUCCESSES AT HOAI DUC DISTRIIT TOWN IN BINH TUY PROVINCE. GOVERNMENT FORCES PUSHED NVA TROOPS OUT OF SECTIONS OF THE TOWN INTO WHICH THEY HAD PENETRATED, INFLECTING HEAVY CASUALTIES, AND REESTABLISHED COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE TOWN AND THE AIR STRIP. ELSEWHERE IN MR-3 THERE WAS A GENERAL LULL WITH MOST INCIDENTS TAKING THE FORM OF MINOR SHELLINGS AND SAPPER PROBES. RVNAF FORCES ARE BRACING FOR THE NEXT WAVE OF THE COMMUNIST DRY SEASTN CAMPAIGN IN WHICH TAY NINH IS EXPECTED TO BE A MAIN TARGET.

2. ALTHOUGH INCIDENTS INCREASED IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE, THE LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE REGION DROPPED. THERE WERE 290 INCIDENTS RECORDED THIS WEEK COMPARED TO 348 LAST PERIOD. BINH DUONG REPORTED 50 INCIDENTS (45 LAST WEEK) WHILE TAY NINH HAD 32 (68) AND BINH TUY 15 (51). MR-3 HQS REPORTED 63 GROUND CONTACTS, 147 ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND NINE COMBINED GROUND AND ABF. THERE WERE 16 MININGS AND 55 OTHER MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS.

3. NVA/VC ABF ROUNDS FIRED DROPPED TO 2,373 (7,088 LAST WEEK) INCLUDING 108 ROCKETS, 357 ARTILLERY, AND 1,896 MORTAR ROUNDS. ARVN ARTILLERY FIRED 26,427 ROUNDS, COMPARED WITH 30,592 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. VNAF 3RD AIR DIV FLEW 183 FIXED-WING SORTIES AND 354 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 68 KIA, 266 WIA, AND 11 MIA. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE 242 KIA AND ONE CIA. IN ADDITION, VNAF REPORTED 322 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR STRIKES.

5. BINH TUY PROVINCE RECORDED THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING IN MR-3 THIS WEEK. HOAI EUC DISTRICT TOWN WITHSTOOD HEAVY ABF'S TOTALING OVER 1,000 ROUNDS OF MIXED ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND RECOILLESS RIFLE FIRE, WITH ONLY LIGHT TO MODERATE CASUALTIES. THE ARVN 18TH DIV'S 43RD REGT OPERATING WEST AND NORTHEAST OF HOAI DUC DISTRICT TOWN HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN A SERIES OF ENGAGEMENTS WITH COMMUNIST FORCES AND GVN FORCES NOW CONTROL THE ENTIRE TOWN AND THE AIR
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STRIP. NVA/VC LOSSES FROM THESE CONTACTS HAVE BEEN OVER 120 KILLED WHILE THE GVN HAS HAD LIGHT CASUALTIES. VO XU VILLAGE TEN KMS NORTHEAST OF HOAI DUC CAME UNDER A 50 RD ABF AND GROUND ATTACK ON JAN 12 AND A SEIOND GROUND ASSAULT ON JAN 13. THIS SECOND ATTACK FORCED THE HEAVILY OUTNUMBERED POPULAR STRCE DEFENDERS TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PILLAGE.

6. SAPPERS FIRED B-40 ROCKETS AND HURLED EXPLOSIVE CHARGES IN THREE SEPARATE AREAS AFTER PENETRATING AN ARVN CAMP TWO KMS NORTHEAST OF BIEN HOA AIR BASE ON JAN 14, KILLING FIVE GVN SOLDIERS AND WOUNDING EIGHT. THE SAPPERS LOST ONE DEAD. BIEN HOA AIR BASE REMAINED A TARGET OF COMMUNIST ROCKETS TAKING FOUR ABF'S TOTALING TWENTY-SEVEN 122MM ROCKETS. ONE AIRMAN WAS WOUNDED AND FOUR TRUCKS AND A MAINTENANCE FACILITY WERE DAMAGED. LONG BINH BASE RECEIVED EIGHT ROCKETS ON JAN 13 BUT REPORTED NO DAMAGE. SAPPERS ALSO DESTROYED A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 314, THE MAIN ROAD TO TAN UYEN IN NORTHERN BIEN HOA PROVINCE, ON JAN 8 DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS.

7. SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN GIA DINH AS COMMUNIST SAPPERS CONTINUED THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THIS PROVINCE. ON JAN 10 THE THU DUC POWER PLANT NINE KMS NORTHEAST OF SAIGON, WHICH SUPPLIES SAIGON WITH MUCH OF ITS ELECTRICITY, EXPERIENCED A SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS, CAUSED BY PLASTIC CHARGES PROBABLY PLANTED WITHIN THE POWER PLANT BY COMMUNIST PENETRATION AGENTS. ELECTRICAL OUTPUT WAS INTERRUPTED BUT QUICKLY RESTORED. THE VO KHE BRIDGE, 15 KMS EAST OF SAIGON WAS DESTROYED BY SAPPERS ON JAN 12.

8. TAY NINH, BINH LONG AND BINH DUONG PROVINCES ALL EXPERIENCED NUMEROUS ABF'S AND SMALL GROUND CONTACTS THROUGHOUT THIS REPORTING PERIOD. TAY NINH CITY WAS HIT BY TWO ABF'S ON JAN 9 AND 10, WHICH RESULTED IN ONE PERSON KILLED. SUOI DA 2 OUTPOST, 15 KMS NORTHEAST OF TAY NINH RECEIVED 64 ROUNDS OF 107MM AND 122MM ROCKET EARLY JAN 14. TWENTY-EIGHT DEFENDERS WERE KILLED AND ONE WAS WOUNDED. THE CHON THANH AND AN LOC AREAS IN BINH LONG SAW AN UPSURGE IN ABF'S WITH AN LOC RECEIVING OVER 50 ROUNDS OF 105MM ARTILLERY DURING THE PERIOD. AN A-37 JET WAS SHOT DOWN FOUR KMS NORTH OF AN LOC IN BINH LTNG ON JAN 11 BY COMMUNIST ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. THE PILOT WAS SAFELY RESCUED BY VNAF HELICOPTERS.

9. ELSEWHERE IN MR-3, HARASSMENT CONTINUED IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE ALONG QL 20. THIS WEEK THREE CONVOYS WERE AMBUSHED WITH A CUMULATIVE

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LOSS OF ONE WOUNDED, AND ONE JEEP AND ONE TRUCK DESTROYED. TWO VNAF HELICOPTERS WERE LOST IN RESCUE OPERATIONS IN PHUOC LONG

PROVINCE WHILE ATTEMPTING TO PICK UP SURVIVORS FROM THAT PROVINCE'S RECENT FIGHTING. ALL CREWMEN EXCEPT ONE (INCLUDING THREE WOUNDED CREWMEN) WERE RECOVERED. IN LONG AN PROVINCE SIXTEEN COMMUNISTS WERE KILLED IN A FIERCE TWENTY MINUTE BATTLE 15 KMS NORTHWEST OF THU THUA ON JAN 8 WHEN THEY ATTACKED REGIONAL FORCES LOCATED AT BA MIA HAMLET. THERE WERE NO FRIENDLY LOSSES.

10. ICCS: WHILE NO ICCS DELEGATIONS CONDUCTED OBSERVATIONS IN ICCS REGITN V THIS WEEK, THERE WERE 17 DEMONSTRATIONS AT REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL SITES DURING THE WEEK IN PROTEST OF THE COMMUNISTS' AGGRESSION IN PHUOC LONG. FIVE DEMONSTRATIONS OCCURRED AT BIEN HOA, ONE AT LAM SON, ONE AT CU CHI, THREE AT TAN AN, FOUR AT VUNG TAU, AND THREE AT XUAN LOC.

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H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 DPW-01 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /092 W

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R 151002Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1891

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
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PART VIII - MR-4

1. MILITARY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: RENEWED HEAVY FIGHTING IN DELTA BEGAN AS PREDICTED JAN 8. AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, WHILE WELL BELOW PEAK OF DECEMBER HIGHPOINT, STILL ABOVE NORMAL HIGHPOINT LEVELS OVER PAST YEAR. INCREASE IN ACTIVITY WAS SHARPEST IN SOUTHERN DELTA, THOUGH INTENSE FIGHTING ALSO OCCURRED IN VINH LONG, WHILE DINH TUONG AND KIEN TUONG WERE BECOMING MORE ACTIVE NEAR THE END OF THE PERIOD. DELTA-WIDE, MR4 CORPS REPORTS 1036 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS (462 FOR EIGHT DAYS LAST WEEK) CONSISTING OF 152 GROUND ATTACKS (19), 1 INFILTRATION (2), 682 ABF'S (280), 166 HARASSMENTS (105), 23 SABOTAGE (9), 10 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (11) AND 2 OTHER INCIDENTS. GVN LOSSES INCREASED TO 318 KIA (159), 1451 WIA (721), 103 MIA (176) AND 9 CREW-SERVED (17) AND 272 INDIVIDUAL (339) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 1271 VC/NVA KILLED (961), 44 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (51), AND 60 CREW-SERVED (55) AND 310 INDIVIDUAL (352) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE INCREASED SHARPLY, PARTICULARLY IN THE EASERN DISTRICTS. 4 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED AND 32 INJURED IN 4 SHELLINGS OF CAI BE DISTRICT HQ, WHILE SHELLINGS OF HAU MY DISTRICT HQ WOUNDED 5. IN MY THO, SAPPERS DESTROYED A DISTRICT (PHUONG) OFFICE KILLING 2 AND WOUNDING 7, AND DONG TAM BASE, HQ OF THE 7TH ARVN DIVISION AND ONLY 8 KM FROM MY THO, WAS SHELLED TWICE. TWO VILLAGE OFFICES AND AN OB IN BEN TRANH (D) AND ANOTHER OB IN GIAO DUC (D) WERE OVERRUN OR ABANDONED. THERE WERE FOUR DAYTIME SNIPINGS AT MILITARY VEHICLES ON HIGHWAY 4, WHILE HARASSMENTS AND SABOTAGE ON ROUTES 20 AND 29 CONTINUED. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, ELEMENTS OF TWO 9TH ARVN DIVISION REGIMENTS IN TUYEN NHON (D) ARE APPARENTLY NOW IN DEFENSIVE

POSITIONS, AND, EXCEPT FOR DISTRICT HQ COMPOUND AND NAVY BASE, DISTRICT TOWN IS NOW REPORTEDLY UNDER CONTROL OF NVA 367B SAPPER REGIMENT. BA THANG MINH OB, THE CLOSEST OB WEST OF TUYEN NHON ON THE VAM CO TAY RIVER, WITHSTOOD 2 GROUND ATTACKS AND 3 ABF'S, WHILE THE DISTRICT HQ ITSELF WAS MORTARED 5 TIMES. THE PROVINCE TOWN WAS HIT BY 72 ROUNDS OF 122MM MORTAR, WHILE TWO

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SAPPER ATTEMPTS IN MOC HOA RESULTED IN THE DESTRUCTION OF AN ICCS BOAT. AT WEEK'S END, HEAVY FIGHTING WAS REPORTED IN NORTHERN TUYEN BINH (D), AND ONE A-37 JET WAS SHOT DOWN THERE AS WELL AS IN TUYEN NHON DURING THE WEEK. ACTIVITY IN KIEN PHONG CONTINUED TO DECLINE FOR THE SECOND WEEK. THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT GROUND ATTACK WAS BY THE 502B VC BATTALION AGAINST A VILLAGE ON ROUTE 30 4 KM NW OF KIEN VAN DISTRICT HQ; THE ATTACK WAS REPULSED. THE DISTRICT HQ WAS HIT BY 30 ROUNDS OF 82MM THE SAME DAY, WOUNDING 2 MILITARY.

(D) CENTRAL DELTA: KIEN HOA PROVINCE REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET, THOUGH MINE AND BOOBY TRAP INCIDENTS CONTRIBUTED TO HIGH GVN CASUALTIES. A MORTAR/GROUND ATTACK AGAINST A VILLAGE IN DON NHON (D) BACKFIRED WHEN 12 VC WERE KILLED AND A QUANTITY OF WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT CAPTURED AT A COST OF 4 PF WOUNDED. A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 30 WAS DESTROYED BY SAPPERS, STOPPING TRAFFIC BETWEEN MO CAY AND DON NHON DISTRICT TOWNS. ALSO IN DON NHON, ONE CIVILIAN WAS KILLED AND 7 WOUNDED WHEN 10X122MM MORTAR ROUNDS HIT THE DISTRICT TOWN. ACTIVITY IN VINH LONG PROVINCE DECLINED, BUT A NUMBER OF SERIOUS INCIDENTS CAUSED HEAVY LOSSES TO GVN FORCES. MOST SERIOUS WAS AN ATTACK ON THE ARTILLERY SITE, RF BATTALION REAR BASE AND VILLAGE OFFICE IN HUU THANH (V), TRA ON (D). ATTACKERS USED 2 CAPTURED 105MM ARTILLERY PIECES TO FIRE ON GVN FORCES. THREE DAYS LATER, A GVN FORCE FOUGHT ITS WAY BACK INTO THE VILLAGE, AND INITIAL REPORTS INDICATE OVER 100 GVN TROOPS WERE KILLED DURING THE ATTACK. VC/NVA TROOPS TOOK THE ARTILLERY PIECES WITH THEM WHEN LEAVING THE VILLAGE. 49 VC WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED IN TWO CONTACTS WITH 2 RF BATTALIONS IN EASTERN TAN BINH (D). MOST OTHER ACTIVITY WAS IN VUNG LIEM (D) WHERE A HAMLET OFFICE AND TWO WATCHTOWERS WERE OVERRUN. IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, MOST SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY WAS IN LONG TOAN (D). LONG VINH AND LONG TOAN VILLAGES THERE WERE BOTH OVERRUN (LONG TOAN SINCE RETAKEN WITH 47 VC REPORTED KILLED), AND THE DISTRICT TOWN CAME UNDER MORTAR/GROUND ATTACKS. THE DEPUTY DISTRICT CHIEF WAS AMONG THOSE WOUNDED IN THE MORTARINGS. ACTIVITY IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE INCREASED, PARTICULARLY IN PHUNG HIEP (D). MOST SIGNIFICANT WAS MORTARING AND GROUND ATTACK AGAINST VILLAGE OFFICE IN WHICH 15 GVN AND 29 VC WERE REPORTED KILLED. VNN WITH ARTILLERY SUPPORT SUNK 15 SAMPANS AND KILLED 20 VC MOVING BY DAY ON THE MAIN CHANNEL OF THE BASSAC RIVER. IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, VC/NVA RENEWED

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ATTACKS ON A FIREBASE AND TWO OB'S ON THE KIEN AN/HIEU LE DISTRICT BORDER; THE POSITIONS HELD. FIGHTING ALSO RESUMED AROUND ONE OF THE 3 VILLAGES STILL HELD BY THE GVN IN KIEN BINH (D). ATTACKS AND SHELLINGS OF THE VILLAGE HQ AND RF POSITIONS HAVE CAUSED 22 RF WOUNDED AND 10 VC KILLED. GVN EFFORTS TO CLEAR VC/NVA UNITS FROM AREAS NE AND NW OF RACH GIA HAVE MET STIFF RESISTANCE, AND INFILTRATION ROUTE 1C THROUGH NORTHERN KIEN GIANG REMAINS WIDE OPEN. (D) SOUTHERN DELTA: BA XUYEN PROVINCE REPORTS HIGHEST LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN MONTHS; MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS CONSISTED OF RF, PF AND PSDF CONTACTS WITH VC COMPANY-SIZED UNITS SCATTERED THROUGH THE NORTHERN AND EASTERN PORTIONS OF THE PROVINCE. 44 RF WERE MISSING FOLLOWING ONE OF THESE CONTACTS. HOA TU AND THUAN HOA DISTRICT HQ WERE BOTH SHELLED, BUT WITH NO CASUALTIES. ACTIVITY IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE ALSO INCREASED WITH ALMOST ALL INCIDENTS OCCURRING IN GIA RAI, PHUOC LONG AND VINH LOI DISTRICTS. 3 OB'S IN PHUOC LONG AND ONE IN GIA RAI WERE ABANDONED, AND A HAMLET IN GIA RAI WAS OVERRUN. 4 VILLAGE HQ'S WERE HEAVILY SHELLED, THE HARDEST HIT BEING PHONG THANH TAY IN PHUOC LONG WHERE 2 DEFENDING PF PLATOONS FLED TO THE DISTRICT TOWN. IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, 15 OB'S WERE LOST OR ABANDONED DURING THE WEEK--8 IN THOI BINH (D), 1 IN DAM DOI

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SP-02 SS-15 DPW-01 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /092 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL DANANG
RUFNPSWYQAMEMBASSY PARIS 5326
USDEL JEC PARIS
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
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(D) AND 6 IN QUAN LONG (\$). IN ADDITION, TWO WATCHTOWERS IN QUAN LONG WERE LOST AND AN OB JUST NORTH OF STNG ONG DOC DISTRICT TOWN WAS LOST BUT LATER RETAKEN. TAN LOC (V) IN QUAN LONG (D) WAS ABANDONED AGAIN AFTER A DIRECT MORTAR HIT ON AN ARTILLERY POSITION SET OFF EXPLOSIONS IN THE VILLAGE'S TWO AMMO DUMPS. THE VILLAGE WAS RETAKEN TWO DAYS LATER. ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, THE FIRST CIVILIAN TRAFFIC PASSED WITHOUT INTERDICTION FROM DAM DOI (D) TO CA MAU SINCE RECONSTRUCTION OF GVN OB'S ALONG THE BAY HAP CANAL. HEAVY FIGHTING IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE CENTERED ALONG THE KIEN GIANG BORDER IN DUC LONG DISTRICT WHERE ONE VILLAGE WAS LOST AND LOC'S TO ANOTHER CONTINUED TO BE PRESSURED. THE PROVINCE CAPITAL WAS ROCKETED AGAIN, CAUSING LIGHT CASUALTIES.

2. ICCS AFFAIRS: (A) REGION VI RECEIVED 14 COMPLAINTS OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS AND INDONESIAN AND IRANIAN TEAMS IN MOC HOA MADE AN OBSERVATION OF THE JAN 7 MORTARING OF

MOC HOA. ICCS REGIONS VII RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF 46
CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS THIS WEEK, AND THE INDONESIAN TEAM IN
VI THANH CONDUCTED AN OBSERVATION OF THE JAN 12 ROCKETING
OF VI THANH. LAST WEEK REGITN VII RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF
30 VIOLATIONS, BUT MADE NO OBSERVATIONS.

(B) DELEGATIONS TF PROVINCIAL AND VILLAGE OFFICIALS, VETERANS
AND OTHER GROUPS HAVE PRESENTED PETITIONS AND PROTESTS CONCERNING
NVA ATTACK ON PHUOC LONG PROVINCE TO ICCS REGION VII
IN CAN THO AND TO TEAM SITES IN TRI TON, CA MAU AND VINH LONG.
ALL FOUR DELEGATIONS IN CAN THO HAVE MET WITH PROTESTERS, AND
SOME OF THE MEETINGS HAVE RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE TELEVISION
COVERAGE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT ZONES, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT JANUARY 8-14, 1975
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006